

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Serial No. 10/050,972
Sughrue Ref: Q68160

REMARKS

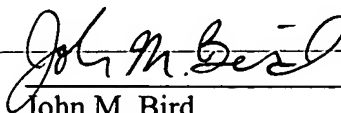
Claims 1-21 and 23 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1 and 23 are independent claims. Claim 22 has been cancelled.

Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner has indicated that claims 1-21 are allowed, and that claim 23 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 22. Therefore, in order to obtain immediate allowance of this application, Applicants have rewritten claim 23 in independent form including all of the limitation of base claim 22.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: December 31, 2003